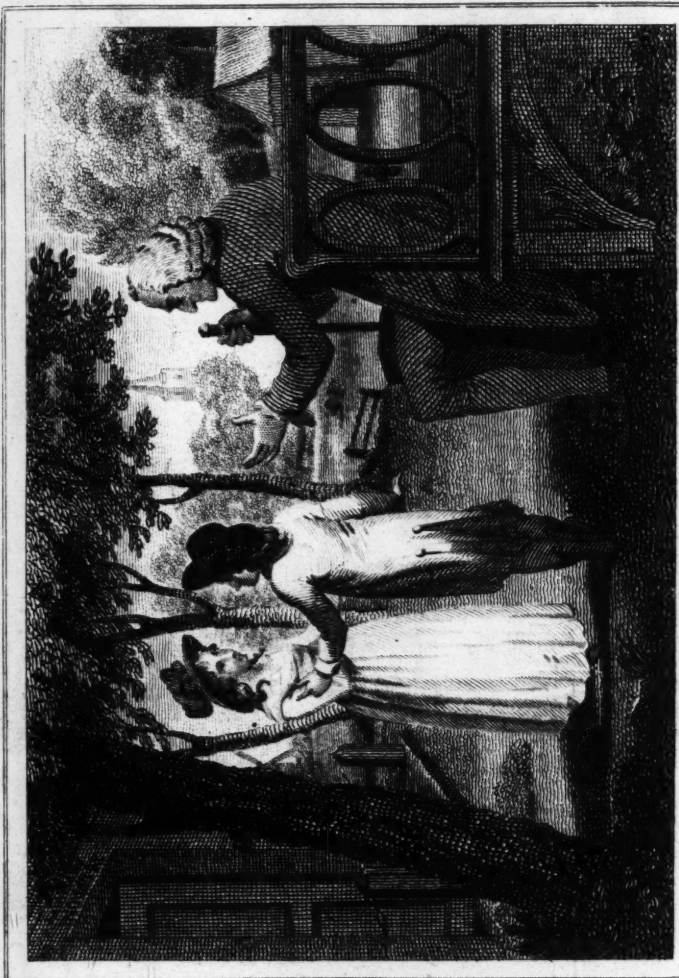


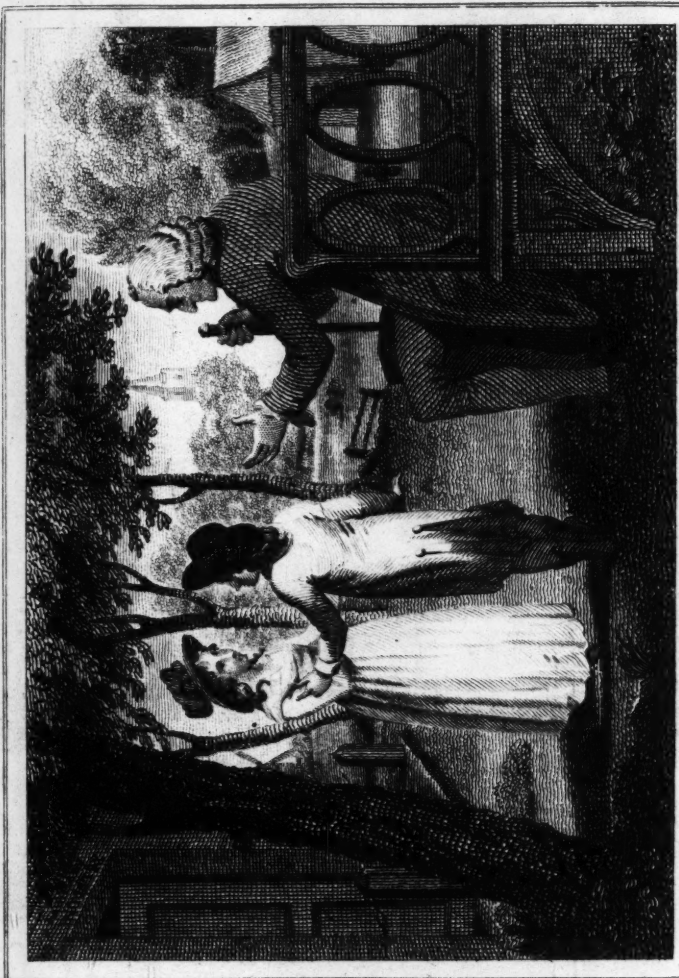
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FRONTISPIECE.



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THE
NEW CHILDREN'S FRIEND:

K OR,
PLEASING INCITEMENTS
TO
WISDOM AND VIRTUE;
CONVEYED
THROUGH THE MEDIUM
OF
ANECDOTE, TALE, AND ADVENTURE.
CALCULATED TO
ENTERTAIN, FORTIFY, AND IMPROVE
THE
JUVENILE MIND.

TRANSLATED CHIEFLY FROM THE GERMAN.

• SECOND EDITION.

LONDON:

PRINTED FOR VERNOR AND HOOD, IN THE
POULTRY; AND DARTON AND HARVEY,
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1798.



PREFACE.

MANY of the Characters in this Work, which virtuous Children have sustained, do honour to the human heart, and would confer credit on those of maturer years. The incidents of this kind will afford entertainment and pleasure to such of our little Readers as never yet harboured a wicked or an undutiful idea ; and will incite them to regulate the future by the past.

It is with concern we say, that some Characters will be found of a different description. However, the follies and the vices of wicked Children—delineated from Nature and Truth—are adapted to reclaim those who possess similar dispositions, by exhibiting to them the consequences and the impropriety of mean, inconsiderate, and dishonourable deeds. Seeing, as they must, the native loveliness of Virtue, and the natural deformity of Vice; the comforts
which

which attend the practice of the one, and the mischiefs which follow a commission of the other; their hearts, though hardened, will doubtless dissolve at each melancholy scene, and give conviction, remorse, and repentance, an opportunity of stealing to the Conscience.

In this hope, and with this intention, the following Sheets were committed to the Press.— The acquisition of Wisdom, Experience, and Virtue, at so cheap and

and easy a rate, must be deemed an advantage of the highest importance; and while this little Volume tends to increase the well-chosen Library, let us ardently hope that the knowledge of the juvenile possessor will be augmented in a still greater proportion.

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THE
NEW CHILDREN'S FRIEND.

THE
FRUITS OF INDUSTRY.

JACOB, and his sister Kitty, walking out together, one day, in the country, approached a delightful, but small, summer-residence, on which the little ones gazed with the highest satisfaction. This retreat was not only beautiful in itself, but commanded also the most charming prospects. In order, therefore, to give their parents (who were then on a visit) the fullest account within their power of this attractive building,

B

they

they read, and endeavoured to retain, an inscription which was placed over its entrance : thus—

Acquired by Industry.

After having pondered on the words, they became desirous to know by what means the place had been distinguished in this particular and remarkable manner. To satisfy his curiosity, Jacob looked around for some person with whom he might begin a conversation on the subject. At length, he discovered an old gentleman, sitting by the side of a rivalet, which flowed before these premises ; and, without much hesitation, taking his sister by the hand, he made towards the reverend stranger.

The

The old gentleman, seeing these sweet children approach, cast his eyes on them with every mark of friendly encouragement; and asking what their desire was, in the most gentle manner, the following dialogue commenced.

JACOB.—We have read, Sir, on the front of yonder house, *Acquired by Industry*; and now, as we have not seen any inscription like it, in the course of our walk—or indeed in our journey hither—we concluded, that these words must conceal some particular signification. I and my sister therefore agreed, Sir, to ask an explanation of this mystery; and that is the reason which led us towards you.

B 2

KITTY.—

KITTY.—Yes, Sir! We looked about on every side for some person to whom we might address ourselves: but not observing any-body, we have taken the liberty of troubling you, Sir, to satisfy our wishes.

OLD MAN.—You have acted properly, my dear children! And I am ready to give you the information which you desire. It is true, the inscription has more than a general signification. If you but listen attentively, I will briefly give you to understand the true meaning of those words; the motive which induced me to place them in that conspicuous situation; and, at the same time, I will not conceal from you the pleasure which they afford, and the gratitude with which they inspire me.

JACOB.—

JACOB.—Gratitude, Sir!

OLD MAN.—Yes, my dear little-one; gratitude!—Be attentive only, and you shall hear.

KITTY.—O Sir! we will be entirely silent.—Pray, begin.

OLD MAN.—Well, then: When I contemplated, in youth, on those things which I learnt from my parents, it appeared evident to my eyes, that man, on this earth, was created for labour; that it behoved him to be diligent, in all his undertakings, for the purpose of acquiring a subsistence; and that the vigour of youth was the time, not only for supplying temporary wants, but also to procure some solace in the decline of life. I therefore chose a trade, and was accordingly apprenticed to a silver-smith.

smith. In that situation, I carefully obeyed my master's commands, and even those of the journeymen; rightly conceiving, that it all tended to my future benefit. What others generally esteemed a hardship, appeared as pleasure to me. I considered that, if my master gained money by the industrious line of conduct which I pursued, my own emoluments were equally great, when set down to the account of improvement and experience. I had often heard my father say, that a good and tractable lad always made a respectable and happy man; that a willing apprentice formed a valuable journeyman, or a thriving tradesman. I never grumbled at the most difficult task, or on being summoned at the earliest, or detained till
the

the latest hour; for, by rightly reflecting, and looking forward to ultimate advantages, drudgery, either in *labour* or *learning*, may be readily converted to amusement. My dear little friends, I will not detain you with the history of idlers and dunces: suffice it to say, that they run from one vice to another, till at length, want, difficulties, disappointment, and not unfrequently disgrace, overtake them, at an early stage of their career.—Having served my seven years with credit, I shortly afterwards entered into business on my own account. In summer, I arose with the sun; and, in winter, long before the break of day. This was not enough: I employed every moment to some certain advantage; for a waste

waste of *time*—let time be as fleeting as it will—is a positive diminution of *substance*.—During the course of these endeavours, I had the mortification to see many shop-keepers, apparently more opulent than myself, proclaimed either bankrupts in the Gazette, or hurried to the gloomy recesses of a prison; among whom, some had been unfortunate, and others neglectful. *Determined* industry will, however, resist the shock of misfortune; and nothing can overwhelm, or considerably depress it, except a long-continued series of losses. Numerous were those which fell to my share: but each new disaster re-kindled my ardour; and, at the age of sixty, I withdrew from those toils which had procured me a passport to hap-

happiness ; serene, unruffled, and without interruption. I built this pleasant retreat, after placing the bulk of my riches in the funds ; and reflecting that yonder house, these grounds, all, in short, that I possess, are the result of honest endeavours, and unceasing diligence, I caused that inscription to be placed in front of the building, which has not only excited your curiosity, but that of many in more advanced years ; for unhappily, at the present period, it seems to assume an enigmatical complexion, because it is now pretty generally asserted, among the common ranks, that, Nothing can be obtained by continual labour.

JACOB.—We thank you, Sir, most heartily, for the explanation which
you

10 THE FRUITS OF INDUSTRY.

you have given us. But, for my part, however willing to study some profession, I should by no means chuse that of a silver-smith.

KITTY.—I believe that it is not a very cleanly trade; for the apprentice-boys are as black as chimney-sweeps!

OLD MAN.—Ah! my children! you do not know how necessary it is, that we should have different minds in the choice of a profession: for it is that variation which appeases our mutual wants, and renders us useful to each other. In this choice, however, we must not be guided by the cleanliness of a profession: it is sufficient that we discharge our duty with zeal, honesty, and punctuality. It is the man which reflects credit on

his calling; and not the calling on the man.

JACOB.—If I were to become great enough to live as a gentleman at my country-house, without being under the necessity of ever working again, I should take care not to let the world know that I had been a tradesman!——

KITTY.—And so should I too!

OLD MAN.—Ah! my dear children! that is a species of ambition, far, very far, from being commendable.—I scrupled not to rest my reputation on the words which form the inscription of my dwelling. I take honour to myself, in being thus enabled to tell other men, and particularly youth, the history of a successful life; and he who will not
acknow-

12 THE FRUITS OF INDUSTRY.

acknowledge, or is too arrogant to recollect, that he has obtained affluence by the means of labour, or trade, or merchandize, is a despiser of the favours and the blessings which his Creator has showered on him. We come into the world, destitute of every thing: without devoting our time to useful purposes, how, then, should we administer to our necessities, much less to the comforts and the pleasures of life. What has been collected by our predecessors, would quickly vanish, and the arts and the sciences totally disappear, if we abandoned every occupation, by degrees, because one was filthy to the sight, and the other irksome to the body, or despicable to the mind.—St. PAUL has wisely said,
“ He

“He that works not, shall not eat.” And experience has but too fatally confirmed the observation of SOLOMON, “The slothful shall appear in tatters.” Thus must we employ the passing hour to advantage; and no disgrace or shame can possibly result, whatever may be the consequence of our exertions. A diligent man, though poor, is nevertheless entitled to respect; and he, who, by the same means, becomes rich, may certainly recur to the source of his happiness with an eye of conscious satisfaction: for, if the effect be honourable, the cause cannot be less so.

JACOB.—I return you a thousand thanks, Sir, for the lights which you have thrown on my understanding,
c and

4 THE FRUITS OF INDUSTRY.

and the instruction which you have so pleasingly conveyed. In whatever situation of life I may be placed—to whatever studies I may be destined, before I come to man's estate—I shall not forget, That it is possible to acquire every thing by Industry.

KITTY.—I will not be out-done, brother! And from henceforth I shall discard Indolence, in my learning, my work, and even in my amusements.

OLD MAN.—Yes my sweet little Miss, that worthy resolution cannot fail to insure the preservation of your health; should Fortune place you above the necessity of labouring for profit; and it will also enable you to succour the distressed, without diminishing your substance. What
a com-

a comfort to say, or to think, that by *not* dissipating the precious hours of life, I have rescued a whole family from the bitterness of want !

If my juvenile readers possess the pliability of Jacob and Kitty ; if they will ruminate on, and take advantage of, the lessons of wisdom and experience, the poorest among them may, one day or other, obtain a country-house, or something equivalent ; and the most affluent feel a supreme satisfaction which slothfulness is incapable of imparting.

THE

BENEFIT OF A GOOD EXAMPLE.

MASTER WILLIAM, repairing to church, one Sunday, with his papa, happened to meet one of his occasional play-fellows, who asked him, where he was going? "To church" answered William.—"I am sorry for that," replied Charles; "for I should like to play with you. This is the only holiday I have; as I am obliged to work all the week."—"Do you never go to church?" said William's father.

CHARLES.—No, Sir; nor my parents neither.

FATHER.

FATHER.—Perhaps they are prevented by sickness, or some other pressing occasion.

CHARLES.—No, Sir, that is not the case. They work hard six days in the week, and so take their pleasure, on the seventh. They go here and there, and every-where; and allow me to play, on condition that I stay within sight of home.

FATHER.—Will you go, then, to church with me? And when we return, you may play a little with William.

CHARLES.—No, Sir, I thank you.

WILLIAM.—Fie! Charles! I always cheerfully accompany my father to church.

CHARLES.—And what do the folks there, William?

WILLIAM.—They join in prayer with the Minister, and hear select passages read from the Bible and Testament. Psalms are sung in honour of God; and, lastly, the Parson delivers a sermon for the instruction and improvement of his hearers. The whole ceremony tends to the glorification of God, who will reward us, if we conduct ourselves properly, and obey his commandments.

CHARLES.—How do you know that?

FATHER.—He has learnt it by experience; because he always observes his religious duties, and attends to the precepts of his parents. Your father and mother are too neglectful, as well for their own sake, as that of their offspring. They may not be
dis-

dishonest; and yet, from your account, they do not discharge their duty towards God; from whom everything is derived.

CHARLES.—Every-thing derived from God, Sir!—Pray, how is that?

FATHER.—Ah! my dear little fellow! I see, with concern, they are bringing you up in the very depth of ignorance. You know not that there is a wonderful Being, who has created all, to whom we owe infinite obligations; from whom all our happiness proceeds; and who requires that we should publicly honour and worship him to the best of our ability.—Come, lay aside your hoop, and follow us. I will not detain you more than two hours; and then you shall resume
your

your amusement, in the company of my son.

Charles, at length, obeyed this compassionate gentleman—who did not conceive it beneath his rank to enlighten a poor boy.—He paid the greatest attention during all the time of divine service; and, on returning, found additional pleasure in the exercise which his hoop afforded. From that time he constantly repaired to church every Sunday; which very soon considerably improved him in the art of reading, as well as in doing away his first incorrect notions of providence and religion. Thus you see, my dear children, that good example is the best means of communicating knowledge. By attending to those who have your welfare

welfare at heart, you will not only obtain all the resulting benefits, but be fortified against vicious inclinations, and pernicious advice.

Such of you who have the happiness to be born of parents that take you, as it were, by the hand, and conduct you to Religion, to Virtue, and Morality, may learn, from Charles's history, to value your superior advantages. It is the qualities, and the perfections of the mind, that distinguish men from senseless animals. Who, then, would willingly remain a brute, while, with a little study, and but trifling sacrifices, he may become a man?

INSOLENCIE OF BIRTH.

MASTER Harry Wildman, taking a walk, one day in the company of his tutor, observed a young peasant, who was tranquilly digging a spot of ground.—Without a moment's consideration, Harry hastily ran towards the rustic, and endeavoured to wrest the spade from his hand, in order to make an essay of his own dexterity.—“Softly, softly!” cried the farmer: “that is not thy work!”

HARRY.—Blockhead! can you say nothing better than *thy*?—For example: “This is not your business, Sir?”—Lazy bones! look there at your ragged coat!

PEA-

PEASANT.—I own myself a block-head,—because I can't write; but am far from being lazy, or I should not tug so, from morning till night.

HARRY.—*Tug!* Why did you not say *labour?*—And for whom, blockhead, do you work so hard?

PEASANT.—For myself, and my parents: and that is my delight, and my pleasure. [*Eyeing the young gentleman significantly*] I wouldn't change with thee for all my old coat.

HARRY.—*Thee* again!—*Thee!*

PEASANT.—Yes, yes! I know I'm a blockhead. We learn no manners here in the country. But th'wouldst have served me so, if I had given up my spade.

The Tutor by this time came up, and enquired the cause of their dispute.

pute. "I have tried," said the rustic, "to preserve that young gentleman from hurting himself, by refusing to let him work for me, as he does not understand it. He would snatch the spade from my hand; and when he saw that I was strongest, he began to quarrel and to call me names.—I live in yonder hut; and there my parents never learnt me to abuse or miscall any-body, like this *here* young boy!"

HARRY.—No, to be sure! *Thou* and *thee*, that is nothing at all.

TUTOR.—You are to blame, Harry! The lad speaks according to his manner of life, and education; and therefore his bluntness is excusable. But how often do *you* express yourself improperly, and opposite to reasonable expectation. Rather imitate the *goodness*

ness and the *activity* of that dutiful son, than ridicule his goodness and his poverty.

HARRY.—But I should have taken pleasure, Sir, in turning up the earth a little. It does not require so much skill.

TUTOR.—Such implements are, nevertheless, too heavy for your hands; and though they were not, the conduct which you observed was unpardonably menacing and imperious. Perhaps you thought—“ He is only a poor clown; and therefore will not dare to refuse me anything!” It was, however, a wrong supposition; for every man, however low in circumstances, or unpolished in appearance, is still master of what is confided to his care, as well as that

D which

which properly belongs to him. This is a maxim that you have still to learn.—Restrain your passions; and forget not to treat your inferiors with civility, when you have a favour to solicit. Never forget the poor rustic's words: "Yonder hut is the place of my residence; where I was not instructed to ill-treat or quarrel with any-body!" What a cutting reproof for you who daily receive good lessons!—To be thus reprov'd, and so justly, by a simple youth, who contentedly eats the bread which he earns by the sweat of his brow, must cover you with shame. But turn the humiliation which from thence proceeds, to your advantage; study to distinguish, and at the same time amend,

amend, the impropriety of your behaviour.

HARRY.—Shall we pursue our walk, Sir?

TUTOR.—No, Harry!—First, you must ask pardon of the rustic, for the insults which you have offered him; and it is even requisite that you add your thanks for the precaution which he employed, in not suffering you to handle a tool, that, under your mad-brained guidance, might have ruined you for ever: an incurable lameness—if not the loss of a leg—was the least that could have been expected.

These serious probabilities made a most sensible impression on the young gentleman's mind, and served to represent his folly in its true point of

view. Though naturally of an imperious disposition, the well-timed and resolute perseverance of his Tutor produced an instantaneous revolution in his haughty mind. He now approached the virtuous rustic in a manner that differed widely from their first rencounter; requested forgiveness, thanked him for his prudent fore-thought, and held out his hand as a token of friendship, crying —“ My good lad, I was hasty and inconsiderate. I abused you wantonly without any real cause, at a time, too, when you was consulting my safety and preservation. I am now fully convinced of my error; and your sedateness and your diligence more than counterbalance, in my eyes, your uncouthness, your poverty, and
your

your rags, which I esteem now as much as I despised before.—We must part (*shaking him by the hand*) But my papa shall be told of your goodness and your necessities. Perhaps, too, he will afford you assistance.”

Every one of our little readers must have felt the unpleasantness of Harry's situation, when thus compelled to render justice to a boy so much beneath him in fortune, birth, and education. They will observe, also, that propriety of conduct adds dignity to the character of a Clown; while an opposite mode of behaviour degrades, and renders contemptible, the son of a Nobleman.

We are indebted to that sensible Tutor for the circumstances of this incident: it is detailed for your

service ; and recollect that, if you fall into a similar error, it is more than probable that a degradation, equally painful, will ensue.

THE

THE

GOOD RESOLUTION.

THOMAS and Fanny, in their way to School, one morning espied their Uncle coming towards them. Fanny first seeing him at a distance, exclaimed—"There is my dear Uncle!" But Thomas, thinking that this encounter would impede the resolution which he had formed, of being first at School, said to his sister—"Ah! Fanny, are you then so much rejoiced on seeing Uncle? Indeed, I am not: for now we shall be hindered in our good resolution; because I fear that Uncle will detain us too long; and, instead
of

of being sooner at study than usual, we shall be later."

"Dear Brother!" replied Fanny, "our esteem for Uncle is so great, that, meeting him thus, we cannot do less than enquire after his health; and I am sure it will not retard us so much as you may suppose."

"But you know, Sister," said Thomas, "that every moment is precious; since we have so often found by experience, that the sooner we attended our business in School, the more we could say we had learnt."

By this time, their Uncle having approached, both these children addressed him in the most dutiful and proper terms. Still, however, he observed the marks of that dissatisfaction which lurked in the mind of Thomas.

"What

“What is the reason, nephew,” said he, “that you do not seem so well pleased as your sister? Has any thing happened to you on the road?”

THOMAS.—No, dear Uncle!—But I am uneasy—and also afraid that you will detain us too long; and that thus we shall not be able to carry our good resolution into effect.

UNCLE.—Tell me, then, dear children, the particulars of your good resolution.—If really good, let me hear it.—Your Uncle has never hitherto thrown any obstacles in the way of your commendable aims, and useful employments.

THOMAS.—Far from it, my dear Uncle!—And I believe that our present resolution is also good; for we owe it to the advice of papa and
mamma;

mamma; and what they tell us, we may certainly do, without hesitation or fear. It is, to be always in School an hour sooner than other children; because we can then look over, if not learn our lessons with less interruption; and thus have more leisure, afterwards, to mark and listen to the improvement of others.

FANNY.—Yes, dear Uncle! this was the purport of our last night's conversation; this was the advice which our Parents gave us, and the cause of our meeting you so early this morning.—I nevertheless thought it my duty, on seeing you, though so far off, to wait for your approach, that we might enquire after your health.

UNCLE.—You acted very discreetly, my dear Fanny!—It shews
your

your politeness, and the attachment which you preserve for your friends.— The hesitation of Thomas is amply compensated by his frankness, and the ardour that he has shown to fulfil a praise-worthy resolution. Hasten therefore, to School, without further ceremony; and, at a future time, you will reap all the advantages which result from hours judiciously allotted and industriously passed.—When you have leisure and opportunity, come and make me a visit: for no guests shall I be prouder to see, while you continue to give such indications of docility.

The previous incident will demonstrate to my little Readers, the necessity of candour and openness: and
they

they cannot avoid observing, at the same time, that virtuous minds feel as much pleasure in carrying a good resolve into execution, as in making it. Thomas was visibly offended at the prospect of *disappointment*: but if he had conducted himself fully, instead of frankly confessing the cause of his uneasiness, the enquiries of his Uncle might have consumed a still greater portion of those moments which he regarded as so precious; and he would also have concealed that which places him on a footing with the *best* of children!

THE APPLE.

Two striplings ran after an apple that lay before them at some little distance. "I shall assuredly get it;" said the urchin John; "because I can run faster than you!" And, in reality, he was soon before his companion several paces. But what happened?—In consequence of his excessive haste, he neglected to look about him, and fell over the branch of a tree, which lay in the way.

Who, now, obtained the apple?

Not the one who could run quickest; but he that employed the most circumspection.

GRATITUDE.

IN a boat, passing between the King's Bridge at Paris, and the Invalid Hospital, the following conversation, some time since, occurred between a man of distinction and a poor woman.—

GENTLEMAN.—Are you married, good woman?

WOMAN.—O yes, Sir!

GENT.—And what calling pray, does your husband follow?

WOM.—He gets a subsistence by working on the river.

GENT.—In what part of the city do you live?

WOM. In Gros Caillon.

GENT.—

GENT.—And where are you at present going?

WOM.—To the Barriere du Roule.

GENT.—That is, truly, a long journey!

WOM.—I am going to buy bread.

GENT.—Bread! Is there none sold, then in Gros-Caillon?

WOM.—Pardon me, Sir!—

GENT.—It must be, surely, that bread is cheaper in Roule?

WOM.—O no, Sir, the price is the same.

GENT.—What reason can you, then, have to undertake so long a journey, twice a week, at least?

WOM.—Before my husband obtained the employment which he at present holds, we were very poor. The baker who now lives at Roule,

kept a shop at that time in Gros-Caillon. And so compassionate was the good man, that, when we had no money, he gave us credit. Since then, he is removed; and our circumstances are altered for the better.

GENT.—Well, proceed——

WOM.—My good, Sir, we should shew ourselves thankful, when it is in our power. I still buy my bread of our old neighbour, as an acknowledgment of the services which he formerly rendered us.

THE keeper of an ale-house in France, a few years since, accidentally met a little boy, who had wandered from the house in which he had been placed as a Foundling. Struck with compassion on observing the youth
and

and the poverty of the child, he conducted him to his dwelling, and afterwards bestowed such an education on him as his circumstances would allow; without having any other design than to satisfy his generous disposition.

When Peter—for that was the Foundling's name—had reached the age of eighteen, his benefactor was pressed by a certain creditor, for the payment of a small sum; and this happened at a time, too, when he could not command any ready-money. The worthy publican, desirous of supporting his credit, resolved to sell as much of his silver-plate as would defray this urgent demand. Having maturely weighed the matter in his own mind, he called

Peter; to whom he communicated his embarrassment and his determination; commanding him to carry such and such articles to the silver-smith. Peter, however, answered with an air of tranquillity, That it was not advisable to part with his property in so great a haste; and added, that he knew a more eligible expedient to remove the difficulty.

Without waiting for a reply, the worthy young man went out, and repaired to a Recruiting Officer; enlisted in the army; received the bounty-money; and, returning to his benefactor, cried—"See there!—I have long cherished an inclination to serve the King; and, to shew you that I am not ungrateful, I have taken this opportunity of gratifying my desire.

fire. You can now discharge your debt !”

The Landlord and his wife burst into tears ; embraced the young man, and entreated him to receive back his gold. But he continued unchangeable ; absolutely refused to consent ; and departed, after having won the esteem, and raised the astonishment, of all who heard the adventure.

SILENCE.

SILENCE.

A YOUNG Girl, between ten and twelve years of age, who attended sheep in the country, amused herself one day, by digging up the earth near a tree, from whence she was watching her flock. Presently she found several pieces of gold; but, notwithstanding the joy which such an unexpected circumstance occasioned, she resolved on not communicating the discovery to any one; no, not even to her nearest relation.—

At the age of twenty years, she married a journeyman miller; who also continued ignorant of the secret. When she had reached her fortieth

year, the Mill at which her husband still worked, was advertised to be publicly sold; and she advised him to purchase it! The good man, however strongly inclinable to do something for himself, lamented that Fortune had placed such an attempt far beyond his reach. "Take heart man!" cried the wife; "I will provide you with money enough to accomplish the purchase!" And then she related the whole affair for the first time.—If the Miller was surprised at this sudden shower of affluence, that surprise extended itself yet farther, when he considered with what perseverance she had consented to labour, with him, for twenty years, in nearly a state of indigence, while she had riches at her command. He repaired to the
tree,

tree, accompanied by his wife; dug, and found the gold, as she had described it. "I reserved it," said she, "for a good opportunity; and that long looked for opportunity is now at hand."——They sold the treasure, which consisted of very ancient pieces; and it produced them more than 800*l*. The Mill was bought. Industry led to wealth; and the premises are actually, at this present time, in possession of the Miller's grandson.

Who, after this, will dare assert, that a woman cannot keep a secret?

THE
HUNGRY FAMILY.

A FARMER, returning from the corn-mill, was attacked by a person whom he discovered to be one of his neighbours. The ruffian elevating a cudgel, demanded of him the bag of flour which he was carrying home; but, the Farmer, no ways intimidated, sprung from his horse; and, seizing the robber by the throat, exclaimed—
“ You see, villain! that it is in my power to punish your temerity!”

ROBBER.—Do so; or, deliver your flour. I want it: we are starving; I—my children—and my wife!

FAR-

FARMER.—Ah! are you perishing of hunger? That is another matter. But still I would not have you be a thief.—Take the bag.—I make you a voluntary present of it. I will even help to place it on your shoulder. Be gone. And do not forget to keep your own counsel.

The horse being eased of his burden, set off, on a full gallop, to the farm yard. The farmer's wife, seeing the animal without her husband, ran, in the greatest confusion, to communicate her apprehensions to her domestics. Before, however, any measures could be taken, she had the satisfaction of seeing her good man enter the house, in a state of the utmost tranquillity. She instantly
asked

asked him, how it happened that the horse came home alone.—

FARMER.—Hold your tongue !

WIFE.—And where is the flour ?

FARMER.—Be still, I say !—Wait till I can speak to you in private.

As soon as they were alone, the Farmer related the whole adventure to his Wife; and ended with saying—
“ Assuredly this man and his family must labour under the greatest distress, or he would never have dared to attack me ; knowing, as he does, that, in point of strength, I am able to overpower, with ease, two or three like himself !”

The amiable woman, without staying to make any observations on what she had heard, took up a large loaf, and covered it with her apron.

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When about to quit the house, she whispered her husband thus:—"As their hunger is so pressing, it will be hard for them to stay while the flour is baked."

She immediately proceeded to the house of her neighbour; and there, the first object which struck her, was, the little children devouring the dough around their mother; who, half-famished, was making it into bread. She presented the poor woman with the loaf; and, adding a few shillings to that seasonable relief, left the dismal habitation before the astonished mother could pour forth the overflowings of a heart that throbbed with gratitude.—By these acts of well-timed magnanimity, the despairing husbandman acquired new
vigour

vigour and new spirits: he became doubly diligent in the discharge of his daily occupations; this continues to secure him a moderate competency; he trembles on recurring to his narrow escape; and blesses, daily, his philanthropic benefactor.

From this Narrative, my little Readers will see the solid benefits which generosity—under particular circumstances—may confer; and, as they grow up towards a state of manhood, it will teach them the necessity of endeavouring to distinguish Misfortunes from Crimes.

THE

COMPASSIONATE JEW.

Nothing is perhaps more ridiculous, if not more culpable, than to mock our fellow creatures, because their religious opinions, or their manners, differ from our own. To obtain respect ourselves, we must pay deference to others, of whatever nation, or persuasion: for numerous facts have demonstrated, that virtue, and every good quality which adds dignity to the human form, are to be found in the most distant regions of this terraqueous globe.

A party of gay young men, last summer, returning to London in one
of

of the Gravesend boats, regaled themselves with bread and ham, during the course of their passage. Next to these frolicsome youths, sat a Jew and a poor Soldier; the latter of whom, having a good appetite, and no provision to satisfy the cravings of nature, often cast a wistful eye at the delicious slices which were circulating within the reach of his olfactory organs. He sighed too; but sighed, alas! in vain. The Jew, however, did not escape the gentlemen's attention; and, being tinged with the vulgar prejudice of which we have before spoken, one among them cried, sneeringly—"Smouch, will you have some ham?"

"If you please, gentlemen," answered the Jew.

“How!—You do not dare, surely, to swallow pork?”

“A piece of ham, nevertheless,” answered the Jew, “will prove highly acceptable.”

Astonished at his ready acquiescence, they cut him a slice; and he received it on a biscuit, which he drew from his pocket, in order to avoid touching the meat, agreeably to his law. This increased the party's surprise. “What!” said one of them, “would you keep the ham at so respectful a distance from your fingers?—How, then, will you dare to eat it?”—

The Jew, without answering this question, gave the young gentlemen his thanks for their kindness; and then turned to the Soldier, saying—

“See

“ See there, my friend! That is for you.—Now it is in your power to say, that a Jew has feasted you on ham!” After this, directing his eyes to the youthful wits, he thus addressed them: “ Gentlemen, have you not learnt compassion from Jesus and his Apostles?—Thank God! I have been better instructed by Moses and the Prophets.”

FILIAL INTREPIDITY.

A REAL INCIDENT, COPIED FROM THE
HISTORY OF HOLLAND.

IN the year 1574, the Spaniards, at that time most inveterate enemies of the Dutch, made an incursion into North Holland; and, approaching a village called Westzaan, the terrified inhabitants took to flight; those at least who were not prevented by age and infirmity. A young lad, named Lambert Meliss, found himself at home, during these moments of alarm, with no other companion than a decrepit mother, whom he most tenderly loved. Occupied alone with considerations for her safety, he never
once

once thought of securing what was valuable in the house: his chiefest treasure was a disconsolate mother; and his only study was directed to the means of her preservation. This distressful circumstance occurred in the middle of winter, when all the waters were locked up by impenetrable ice. There was no one of those sledges at hand, which the Hollanders use for travelling in this inclement season: the youth, therefore, hastily placed his afflicted parent in a small fettle, and thus dragged her over the ice, with the velocity of lightning. Notwithstanding his swiftness, the Spaniards got some intimation of a supposed booty; discovered the track, and followed with the utmost celerity, in the idea, and the

the hope of seizing an inestimable prize.

Meliss, seeing the enemy in close pursuit, and perceiving that it was impossible to outrun them, came to a speedy resolution of hiding his mother and himself in some adjacent reeds. In vain, however, was this precaution. The soldiers, but too intent on their prey, discovered them almost immediately: but, on proceeding to an examination, they found nothing except a helpless parent and a dutiful child. However baulked in their expectations, they were nevertheless most sensibly struck at this extraordinary instance of filial affection. Too poor themselves to bestow any reward on the youth, they gave him external tokens of their
admi-

admiration; carefully avoided giving these fugitives the smallest molestation; and went back, rather astonished than disappointed.

Lambert, having thus escaped the dangers that threatened him, again grasped the cord with which he drew the vehicle along; and pursued his course, till he reached a considerable town called Horn. He was admitted at the western gate of that place; and there his heroism, his dangers, and filial piety, became, in a short time, the universal theme of conversation.

The Mayor and Aldermen of Horn considered Lambert's conduct so exceedingly meritorious, that, in commemoration of so noble a deed, and to excite all other children to imitate his example under the same

or

or similar circumstances, they caused a stone to be placed on the top of the western gate, representing a young man dragging an aged woman over the ice, precisely after the manner in which that event occurred; and under the figures a suitable inscription was cut, which may even be seen at the present day.

So far did the civil power reward the virtue of this amiable child. But Providence had more in reserve for him. Lambert remained at Horn, where a succession of fortunate incidents enabled him to enjoy the comforts of life, during the whole course of his existence. He married most advantageously, in consequence of his merits and his virtues; and left a numerous posterity, some of whom

whom at this moment fill the most respectable and the most lucrative offices under the government of that town.

Children, do not fail to call LAMBERT MELISS to your recollection, should you ever for an instant, be inclined to harbour ingratitude towards your parents !

THE
GENEROUS TESTATRIX.

A SURGEON, who resided in the west of England, being called, some time since, to bleed a widow lady of rank, had the misfortune to divide an artery. The wound became inflamed; and signs of mortification ensuing, it was deemed adviseable to cut off the limb without delay. However speedily this operation was performed, it afterwards appeared that the infection had penetrated further; in short, that death was inevitable.

From the nature of this injury, my little readers may suppose—they may innocently suppose—that the Lady,
in

in despair, arraigned the Surgeon's bad conduct most bitterly. But not convinced of his general merits, she attributed what had happened to accident ; and, foreseeing that he would in consequence lose his reputation, and of course his livelihood, immediately had a clause inserted in her Will, allowing him 200l. per annum.

What a magnanimous, what a Christian resolve!—Who can refuse their admiration of a deed which manifested such goodness, discrimination, and wisdom !—What a glorious command of those passions which sometimes disgrace humanity!

THE
IMPERIAL PHYSICIAN.

ONE day, last summer, a little boy no more than nine years of age, feeling for the miseries of a diseased mother, ventured to make the following request to his Imperial Majesty, whom he met in the street at Vienna:—
“Sire, I have never yet begged: but my dear mother lies dangerously ill. The visit of a doctor comes to a florin: but we have not a florin in the world.—Ah! if your Majesty would be pleased to give me a florin how happy will it make us.”

The Emperor—no less generous than his illustrious predecessors—demanded

manded the name and the residence of this sick woman; in answer to all which the youth gave him the desired information; and then fell on his knees, declaring that it was the first, and should be the last time, that he either had or would implore for charity.

The Emperor gave him the florin which he had thus earnestly solicited; when, so excessive were the Boy's transports, that he ran off without making, or even thinking on, the necessary acknowledgments. In the mean time, however, his Majesty put on a mantle belonging to one of his attendants, and repaired in person to the sick woman's house. She took him, very naturally, for a Physician, whom compassion had brought to
G 3 her

her assistance; and therefore entered into the history of her disorder; shewed him where pen, ink, and paper lay; and entreated that he would write her a prescription.—The Emperor complied with her wishes; gave her the most flattering hopes of amendment, and departed.

Scarcely was his Majesty out of sight, ere the youth entered, almost breathless, with his florin and a Doctor. The astonished Mother observed to the gentleman, that his presence was become unnecessary, as she had just before been visited by a Physician, who had written her a gratuitous recipe. However, the Doctor begged permission to look at it; when, seeing the Emperor's signature, he explained the enigma as much to her

her surprise as satisfaction. It was, in fact, an order on one of the Receivers, to pay that poor, distressed, and afflicted creature, the sum of five and twenty pounds!

In what a variety of circumstances may *good* children promote the happiness of their parents, in whatever rank or situation!—How rapidly may those of a *bad* disposition entail misery on themselves, and plunge the authors of their being into continual sorrow!

TWO

WAYS OF ATTAINING WISDOM.

THE two sons of a certain Nobleman repaired, one afternoon, to the garden, for an airing. The Gardener, seeing them approach a bee-hive, begged they would keep at a greater distance, lest the enraged insects should sting them.

“ I have never yet been stung ! ” said Harry, daringly ; and walked on, regardless of the caution which he had received. Before the Gardener could turn round, Master Harry was saluted by a most excruciating impression on his cheek. Thus, by *doleful experience*, he became wise.

Con-

Constantine, on the contrary, owed his wisdom to timely *instruction*.— Now, Children, which of these two young Gentleman had the greatest claim to superiority of understanding? Not one of you will hesitate to give Constantine that preference to which he is so justly entitled!

HOW

HOW TO REAP WITH ADVANTAGE.

A Boy, who had made great progress in learning, *according to his own conceptions*, but who yet could not discover any of the fruits produced on those occasions, went once into a field where a husbandman was ploughing, and asked him, what he did there?

“I am *ploughing*, my lad!” answered the Countryman: “but, as yet, I have not brought my scythe, for the purpose of mowing.”

“What a foolish answer is that!” said the Boy. But the Husbandman replied—“First I *plough*; then *sow*; and next leave all to Providence till
harvest”

harvest time; for I think that God must give fertility to my labours; while it is my duty to plough and to sow. But you, my child, would probably plough, sow, reap, and lay up in the barn, all at one period! You hold the scythe in your hand, while ploughing; and are, at school, unhappy, because the crop is imperceptible. However, to remove this, you must follow my example. Chuse the proper seasons for the exercise of your labours; *plough*; wait patiently; and fertility, as in the meadows, will crown your studies.

The Boy, feeling the weight of this rustic's observation, blushed exceedingly, and returned home, less astonished than ever at his trifling acquirements,

AFFECTION

AFFECTION AND HONESTY.

IN the year 1775, an old man, nearly one hundred years of age, who resided in Westminster, unexpectedly received a visit from his twelve sons, all of whom had served, and were still serving, in the army. They had no other subsistence than what their trifling pay afforded; and, though quartered in Yorkshire, they unanimously petitioned for liberty to see their father once more, while he yet lived. On arriving, these worthy children found their decayed parent in the most destitute condition, and even without bread!

“No

“ No bread !” exclaimed one of them. “ A man, too, who has given Twelve Defenders to his Country ! *We* must, then, provide for our good father. But, ah ! in what manner ?”

“ Is there no Pawnbroker’s shop at hand ?” asked the youngest, after having reflected for a moment.

“ A Pawnbroker’s shop !” echoed another. “ How can that help us ?— or, have you any thing to carry there ? for Pawnbrokers lend only on good and substantial security.”

“ Alas !” said the youngest son, “ we have nothing. Our father exercised his profession for a long series of years ; and now he is in want of common necessaries. It is a proof, at least, of his honourable dealings. We have been many years in his Majesty’s
H service ;

service; and still no one dares to call our character in question. We have a good name: and should not that be *substantial* enough to obtain the loan of a few pounds? At any rate, let us try the experiment."

This proposition—which rather shewed a nobleness of mind than a very extensive knowledge of the world—was unanimously approved; and they wrote and signed the following note:---

"Twelve English Soldiers, sons of a Taylor, who is about one hundred years of age, and lamentably poor; all of whom are now zealously serving their King and their Country; request Mr. H—— to lend them the sum of ten pounds, which they will solely appropriate to the support

support of their hoary father; and, as a security for the re-payment of which, with interest, at the end of one year from the date hereof, they pledge their honour conjointly, as the only *substantial* thing in their possession at present !”

Having signed and dated this, in due form, they went together, and presented it to a capital Pawnbroker, at the west end of the town. He read the note, and smiled at their simplicity: but, shewing it to a Gentleman with whom he was then conversing, as a proof of consummate ignorance, it fortunately happend, that this stranger knew how to estimate the worthiness which the attempt comprised. “ Pay the money,” said he: “ I will be responsible !”

tearing the paper into a thousand pieces. The Soldiers received the amount of their demand; and hastened to their father, in greater joy than ever heroes experienced after the most brilliant victory.

This instance of dutiful regard was soon communicated to the public; and the liberal of all ranks resorted to the habitation of the decrepit Taylor, whom they loaded with presents; till at length he obtained, by these means, an easy competency during the remnant of his days; and the additional satisfaction of having somewhat to bequeath those virtuous, those zealous children, whose reliance on an irreproachable character had not only rescued an infirm parent from the horrors of want, but also
con.

contributed to their own elevation in the army.

A country, defended by men like these, might bid defiance to the world combined. They have *all* to lose!---their parents, or their children! And those who are capable of protecting treasures like these, would not easily be overcome by external enemies, however desperate.

BARRATIERE,

OR,

THE LEARNED CHILD.

JOHN PHILIP BARRATIERE was born the 19th of January, 1721, at Zwabach, in Germany. His Parents were both from France; and his Father a French Priest. Thus the Child's native language was French. As soon as he could speak properly, his Father learnt him Latin; and, soon afterwards, Greek. The Child made a most astonishing progress in these languages, and already began to take delight in reading.

At six years of age, he studied the Hebrew, Rabbinical, Chaldee, Syriac,
and

and the Arabic languages; and, having made some progress in each of them, he applied himself to History, and particularly Ecclesiastical History. He read, with singular diligence and utility, the ancient Latin and Greek Authors. He next studied Philosophy and Theology; and, at the age of eleven years, he had made a great proficiency in these several branches of knowledge. For all this, he had no other instructor than his Father.—This youth read with such surprising rapidity, that a great folio book lasted him only twelve days; and so retentive was his memory, that, after once or twice reading, he could recollect, and immediately turn, to any passage which he wanted.

Barratiere

Barratiere slept a considerable number of hours. He generally retired to bed at eight o'clock in the evening, and rose again at nine the next morning. Study and reading occupied the remainder of his time. Sometimes, indeed, he walked abroad; but, without a book in his hand, he could find neither pleasure or amusement. In his eleventh year also, he had made great progress in Philosophy and Astronomy.

It was at the same age that he published a book in Latin, which displayed the young Author's extensive learning. This undertaking, at the age of thirteen, was followed by another in the same language. In 1735, his Father was appointed Minister to the French church at Stettin.

Stettin. In travelling to this place, he passed through Halle with his Son, whose fame had before reached the Head Professors at that University.

The King of Prussia, by this means, hearing of young Barratiere, commanded that he should be placed in the University; and the Monarch, at the same time, gave his Father a benefice at Halle, that he might still be near his Son.

Thus advantageously situated, the juvenile Scholar perfected himself in many branches of knowledge, to which he was no stranger before; and acquired several others, that were entirely new to him.

The King had given orders that he should study Jurisprudence. This
was

was a science but little adapted to his inclinations, and to which he would never voluntarily have devoted his researches; he, however, complied with the King's wishes, and, as usual, excelled.

This youth would certainly have been a luminary of the first magnitude in the learned world, if he had lived. But, to the great regret of all who knew, or who had heard of him, he expired in 1740, having met with an accident in one of his fingers, which caused his death.

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THE
ADVANTAGE OF PERSEVERANCE.

A YOUNG Neapolitan, who was strongly inclined to a military life, resolved on trying his fortune in the German armies, a few months before the ever-memorable Revolution commenced in France. Having letters of recommendation, he accordingly bent his course towards Vienna. When the youth had entered the Austrian territory, he one evening supped at an inn with three strangers, who happened to be Germans. To these he related his past adventures, and his future intentions. One of them attended very tranquilly to the Neapolitan's

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litan's history; and at length observed to him, that his resolution by no means favoured of wisdom, since there were only small hopes of preferment in a country which had so long enjoyed the blessings of peace, and where noblemen and their sons filled up every post in the army as soon as it became vacant.

The youth answered, that he would still abide by his resolution; he owned, however, the plausibility of those objections which had been offered; but hoped that, by shewing a zealous inclination to discharge his duty properly, he should at length surmount every obstacle. He even mentioned his name and family, and those distinguished persons who had favoured

favoured him with letters of recommendation.

“ Well, then,” said the Gentleman with whom he chiefly conversed, “ since nothing can keep you back, I will also give you a letter for General Lascy : it may prove serviceable.”

At Vienna, the Neapolitan delivered all his letters to the General, except that written by the Stranger, which he had unaccountably mislaid. The General, however, expressed great concern at being unable to assist him. But the Italian, unintimidated, attended the great man’s levee every day; where he was politely noticed, although nothing else seemed likely to follow.

At length he found the strayed letter, and presented it to General
Lascy

Lafcy the first opportunity, saying, he had not considered it of much value, since it was accidentally given him by a Stranger. The General broke it open; and having looked at the signature with astonishment, cried—"Do you know from whom you received this letter?"

"No, Sir," answered the Neapolitan.

"Why!" exclaimed the General, "it is written by the Emperor himself. You asked for an Ensign's commission: but he commands me to make you a Lieutenant."

THE
INFLUENCE OF VIRTUE
ON
DISHONESTY.

WE ought never to observe silence, when evil presents itself to our eyes; and particularly if it be in our power to curb and confound it. Silence under such circumstances, would render the Spectator as criminal as the actual Parties who commit a crime. Ferdinand reasoned in this sage manner, one day, on seeing two little pilferers busily employed in a Gentleman's garden, to which he had unlimited access. He immediately ran towards them, and asked, if they

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thought

thought their behaviour was good and justifiable? or, if they had a right to steal the property of another?

The children trembled exceedingly on hearing these words; beseeched Ferdinand to say nothing of what he had seen; and even offered him half the stolen fruits, as a reward for that silence which they so ardently desired.

“Fie upon you!” said Ferdinand: “would you have me eat *dainties* that are unjustly obtained, while the poor wretch who steals for hunger, incurs the penalties of the law?—No! rather will I accuse you to the owner of these premises, that your punishment may follow without delay: for all my moral lessons instruct me—and justly, I am certain—that
those

those who commit evil ought to be chastised."

The two Culprits were astonished at finding so much incorruptibility and courage in a Boy no older than themselves: nor would the Gardener's cudgel have produced that effect on their minds, which was brought about by the resolute tone, and the example, of Ferdinand. They implored his forgiveness in the most supplicating postures; and declared that if he would but be silent, they would never from thenceforth steal even the head of a pin. "Well," said Ferdinand, "Mercy is allied to Justice: the former spares those who are supposed capable of repentance; while the latter cuts off the incorrigible. I am moved by your pro-

mises of amendment, and will conceal your villainy on condition that you here leave, in one heap, all the fruit in your pockets, that the owner may see the necessity of being on his guard for the future."

It is needless to describe the willingness with which they both acceded to this proposition, and the nimbleness which they employed to disencumber themselves of what had now lost its flavour, however delicious when honourably acquired.—Though each of them was equal to Ferdinand in point of strength, they retreated with the utmost precipitation, over an inclosure of planks, at the most imminent hazard—Ferdinand still bestowing on them the best counsel,
while

while they continued within the reach of his voice.

Such is the dignity, such the authority of virtue! such the meanness and pusillanimity of vice!—In a case like that just represented, the *two* who invade the laws of society, have *three* enemies to encounter: namely, two consciences, and the person by whom they are detected. And thus my little Readers will see, as they grow up, the truth with which Shakespeare said, that Conscience does make Cowards of us *all*.

CONFIDENCE IN GOD.

LITTLE JACOB, when scarcely ten years of age, had the misfortune to see his mother die, after having long contended with a lingering disease.—The good woman was a widow; had rented a humble cottage in the country; and, by hard labour, had, for some years, kept herself and her only child from the work-house. She also instructed Jacob to labour in proportion as he acquired strength: but wanting the benefit of education herself, and incapable therefore of teaching Jacob, she constantly told him, that he must place his confidence in God; using, at the same time, his
utmost

utmost endeavours when opportunity should offer. Seeing his dear parent in the last agonies of death, the poor lad cried most bitterly; exclaiming, at intervals—"Oh! what shall I do?—What shall I do?—What will become of me?"

"Be honest, faithful, and diligent, my dear child," said she with her last breath, "and put your confidence in God!"

This was the only legacy in her power to bequeath; and still it embraced more substantial advantages than bags of gold committed to the care of an improvident inheritor.—During his mother's life, Jacob had never once experienced the pangs of actual hunger: his meals were indeed coarse, and frequently scanty; but

but they sufficed to tranquillize the cravings of nature. After her death, alas ! that little of which he was capable, served not to dissipate the horrors of want.—Often, when oppressed, did he repair to his mother's grave, and gave a loose to that regret and that sorrow which preyed upon his mind. Viewing eagerly the green sod, he drew consolation from the last words which she had pronounced ; when, for a while, hope triumphed over despair. But still he could not imagine by what means a reliance on God would tend to relieve his necessities, since, every day, they became more and more pressing.

One morning early, having lost the little employment which had hitherto sustained existence, he ran, drooping,

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to the accustomed and beloved spot, where lay his parent, and his fondest hopes; resolving to stretch himself out on the same grave, and there bemoan his fate and his disappointments, till Death should blot him from the calendar of wretchedness.— But ere Jacob could carry his design into execution, a Gentleman of vast possessions, accompanied by his Son, happened to enter the church-yard, in their way to the Vicar's residence. —Despair armed Jacob with courage; and, though he knew it was more commendable to labour than to beg, he considered that, in a case of extreme necessity, it would not be scandalous to sue for alms, if he could not obtain a service.

“ Ah!

“Ah! Sir!” cried he, approaching the Stranger in a most pathetic attitude—“there, beneath that grass, lies my dearest Mother, the last of both my Parents, and of all my Friends. She supplied me, while she lived, with bread; and now, that she is gone, I starve, missing her daily labour and her love.—Oh! that you would generously bestow some trifle on me, or else give me work.—You should see how zealously I would strive to discharge my duty; you should see that I would stop at nothing to win your favour, and to give you satisfaction.”

It happened that the Squire possessed a feeling and a benevolent disposition: every word which Jacob pronounced, seemed expressive of sincerity,

cerity, and want, searching relief by commendable means. At that moment, he was destitute of an Under-Gardener, and therefore commanded Jacob to follow him. Need we say with what alacrity the poor youth obeyed that heart-cheering summons! or how rigidly he fulfilled the promise which he had given his benefactor, sealed as it was, adjoining to the sacred ashes of a Mother, whose untutored piety, and few, but solid precepts, might be considered as the source of his succeeding happiness: for the Squire, remarking his unwearied application, earnestness, and integrity, caused him to be instructed in reading, writing, and arithmetic; and exalted him from one station to another, till at length the once for-

rowful Jacob saw himself the Steward and the Confidant of a Gentleman who had no equal in that part of the country, for his virtues, or his affluence.

From this adventure, our young, and we hope thoughtful Readers, will learn, That it is a virtue to bear afflictions with patience and resignation; and even an imprudence to abandon Hope, although none of her radiations appear.—But, in order to derive comfort from a submission to the will of Providence, they must neither plunge headlong into excesses, nor tranquilly wait for relief independent of their own exertions.

THE WICKEDNESS OF YOUTH

PUNISHED IN AGE.

It is our hope, that all mischievous children, seeing their folly, will amend. To facilitate this, we deem it our duty to shew them the consequences which *have* followed vice in particular instances; and to infer from thence, that such consequences—however dreadful—are always within the bounds of possibility. The History which I am about to relate is well known among the inhabitants of a certain village in the West of England; and I have here presented it, in a connected form, as a terror to the bad, and as comprising incidents

calculated to astonish and fortify the good.

Dick Wildman was the son of a Country Miller, who bestowed little or no education on his Child. Possessing vulgar ideas himself, he thought it unnecessary to put Dick in the way of acquiring any superior notions; for if the Lad, when in his early years, excelled in mischievous contrivances, he was certain of obtaining his Father's approbation, whoever might be the unfortunate object of his *wit*. Richard, however, possessed good natural abilities; but they were perverted for want of proper cultivation, added to the influence of pernicious examples.—Ah! how happy are those Children who receive in time the salutary correction and reproof

proof of prudent Parents, or Guardians! How miserable those little innocents, who are reared under the direction of Fathers and of Mothers who can only boast of their ignorance, their cunning, and even their dishonesty!—How often do the Children suffer for the follies, or the crimes, of those who gave them birth! while the real Criminals elude, sometimes, the hand of Misfortune, and the Law's inflictions!—These are considerations that ought to interest, in a most particular manner, all the youthful Readers of Richard Wildman's History: it will shew them the fatal consequences of imitating the vicious pursuits of others, by *whomsoever* they may be excited, or

allured from the sober sentiments of virtue and goodness.

To contrive and execute roguish tricks, formed the entire study of Dick Wildman; but, then, he was certain of countenance; dreaded no authority; was ignorant of the consequences; and was not subjected to any rational employment, with relation either to business or to learning. He frequently drove sharp nails through the shoes of his Father's Journeyman, whose custom it was to work in a pair of slippers; and when this wicked urchin saw the blood trickle down, or heard the rustic's cries, from the sudden anguish which he felt, then was his happiness complete; the Child triumphed; and the Parent laughed.

This,

This, however, was a pleasure which could not always prove successful: the man became more wary; and little Richard deemed him an *ill-natured* fellow. Thus disappointed at home, he searched abroad for *amusements*; and, at length, in the company of two or three more, as idle as himself, he exercised his brutality on the lame, the helpless, and the blind.—Once, in particular, having noticed the hut of a poor old woman, who partly subsisted on parish pay, they discharged a volley of stones through the window; one of which, striking the back part of the poor creature's skull, fractured it, and occasioned her death, before the accident was discovered. Seeing the unhappy object of their vengeance fall,

fall, they precipitately left the spot ; and extorted a promise from each other to keep the matter secret. A Coroner's Inquest was afterwards held on the body : but there being no witnesses of the fatal transaction, besides the party concerned ; as no signs of a burglarious attempt appeared, and as no one could possibly attribute that catastrophe to the wickedness of children, the Verdict was given—“ Wilful Murder, committed by a person or persons unknown !”

Dick's companions felt the turpitude of their conduct ; and, from that time, never threw a stone, nor again molested the peaceful passenger. But *his* sensations were of a more hardened kind ; for, shortly afterwards, a distressed man, approaching
the

the mill-door, and imploring charity, Dick answered him with deceitful indications of benevolence: "Lay down your bag, poor man!" said he "and follow me. I will relieve your necessities!" The unsuspecting beggar did as he was directed; but, having entered an out house, Richard turned the key upon him, and ran immediately to the bag, the contents of which—composed of dry pieces of bread, cheese, &c.—he presented to his father's pigs, and then filled up the deficiency with rubbish.

Having thus far succeeded in a scheme which he considered as inimitable, the wicked rogue set his prisoner at liberty. The poor man, quickly discovering the injurious exchange which had been made, cried
and

and lamented most bitterly. His loss, indeed, amounted to nothing considerable; but, then, it was his all. The demolition of a poor man's last crust, is, comparatively, as piercing to the mind of sensibility, as an overwhelming storm, which destroys the remaining property of an adventurous merchant. The latter, indeed, is hardly ever subjected to actual want, however dreadful his misfortunes: but when indigence cannot replace the loss of bread, the most agonising dissolution necessarily ensues; and the author of such a wilful injury may be said to have struck a dagger into the human heart.

Unconscious of this truth, young Wildman laughed heartily at the beggar's distress—at that distress which
his

his own villainy had occasioned. He robbed the poor wretch of his earthly all, under the semblance, too, of charity, which he never intended to bestow. The amiable part of my little Readers may now suppose that this Russian in miniature had perpetrated as much cruelty as Malice could possibly devise. But, alas! the despairing Beggar, in an attempt to make known his sufferings to the Miller, was assailed by the yard-dog, urged on and encouraged by the abominable Richard.—Dreadful, indeed, were the sufferer's cries at that moment; his hat fell off; his stick dropped from his hand; every feature of his countenance expressed dismay and terror. This, however, added to Richard's exultation; and
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it is with pain, and reluctance, we say, that a new transport escaped his eyes, on beholding the animal tear off the calf of POVERTY's enfeebled leg !”

To dwell longer on Dick Wildman's juvenile atchievements, would be to swell the indignation of all those who may have read thus far. The recital, I trust, would not *entertain*; and enough has been disclosed for the purposes of caution.

Let us now view him as a Man. His Father died ; and he succeeded him as a Miller.—Tyrannical and cruel towards others, he despised, or was rather careless of, danger himself ; and sometimes encountered difficulties which a person of more gentleness and prudence would have avoided.

avoided. Venturing, one hard winter, on a loose piece of ice, close by his mill, it gave way, and he fell under the water, against some iron spikes, which pretty deeply penetrated the fleshy parts of his body: his skull was fractured, by means of a sharp stone; and both his legs broken, having been jammed between timbers that were placed for confining the water. In this deplorable condition, Wildman was dragged out by his Servant, scarcely exhibiting any signs of life. Proper medical means were, however, employed: and he recovered his senses, to be conscious, as it were, of the magnitude of those inflictions which had been reserved as a just punishment for his youthful offences. Both his legs

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were

were afterwards amputated; he could only walk with the aid of crutches—those aids of which he had so often robbed the crippled and the blind—and, finding that a long illness had exhausted his finances, he flew to the brandy-bottle for relief: this expedient, indeed, exhilarated his spirits for a time; but, causing an inflammation in his eyes, he was deprived of the benefit of sight.—Thus, poor, leg-less, blind, diseased, famishing, and weak, Dick Wildman begged from door to door, afraid of every step he took, and suspecting those answers which he solicited, for fear that some Miscreant, of a similar disposition to his own, should conduct him headlong into that pit which he had formerly prepared, when the

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help-

helpless and the infirm happened to attract his notice.—Too late, this Monster perceived the atrocity of his conduct: but, convinced of it at length, he frequently exclaimed—
“That Providence had justly rendered him that shocking spectacle, as a punishment for his crimes, and as a dreadful example to others!”

THE

FATHER REDEEMED FROM SLAVERY

BY HIS SON.

YOUNG ROBERT waited one evening, with his boat, on the shore, at Marseilles, in an ardent hope that some person or other would shortly appear, who might want his services. Nor did he long hope in vain: for presently a Gentleman stepped into his aquatic vehicle: but not conceiving that Robert was the owner, and supposing that the Waterman could not be immediately found, he essayed to step out, in order to meet with another, who might be ready to obey his commands.

“ That

“That is my boat,” said Robert.
“Shall I row you, Sir?”

STRANGER.—It will be dark in an hour. I only want to be rowed a few turns up and down the haven for the sake of the evening air. But, in my opinion, you are no Waterman; and of this I am the more confirmed by your manner of speaking.

ROBERT.—You have not mistaken, Sir. Properly I am not a Waterman. I exercise this employment alone on holidays, in order to get so much the more money.

STRANGER.—Fie! What covetousness in so young a man!—This I should not have suspected of you.

ROBERT.—If you knew my reason, Sir, for wishing to earn a great deal

of money, you would not suppose me avaricious.

STRANGER.—It is possible I may have wronged you. But, then, you ought to have expressed yourself more clearly. Come, put off; that will give you an opportunity of relating your history at leisure.....

.....Now, my friend, tell me what misfortunes oppress you.—I am much disposed to take an interest in your fate.

ROBERT.—One misfortune, only, sits heavy on my mind. My Father, Sir, is a prisoner; and, as yet, I have not had it in my power to release him.

STRANGER.—How! a prisoner!—
Tell me——

Ro-

ROBERT.—He had saved a considerable sum of money; with which he purchased part of a ship's lading, that was bound to Smyrna. He resolved to sail in the same vessel, that he might dispose of his goods to the greatest possible advantage; but, on his voyage, was captured by an Algerine Pirate; and the ship and the crew were carried to Tetuan, on the Moorish coast. There must my dear Father, with his companions, remain in slavery. Two thousand crowns are demanded for his liberty. But how should we collect this great sum together?—My Mother and my Sisters work day and night, to contribute all in their power. I also exert my best endeavours in the service of a Jeweller, who is my Master, besides which,

which, I work on every holiday, as a waterman, to add a few pence to the general stock. We live as frugal as possible: a single chamber forms the whole of our dwelling; and we find it painfully inconvenient.—I proposed, at first, to become a Slave, in the room of my Father, and to liberate him by that means. But my Mother coming to a knowledge of this design—I cannot tell how—declared that such an offer would not be accepted. Still, however, mistrusting my purpose, she got an order issued, forbidding all Captains to take me on board.

STRANGER.—Do you still hear from your father?—Do you know who, at Tetuan, is his Master; and in what manner he is treated?

Ro-

ROBERT.—His Master has the direction of the Emperor's gardens.—They use him tolerably well ; and he can with ease discharge his task. But we are not present to comfort and to help him ; and he is at a great distance from his dear Wife, and from his three Children, whom he loves most tenderly.

STRANGER.—By what name is your Father known in Tetuan ?

ROBERT.—He has not altered his name. As when here, he is there called Robert.

STRANGER.—Really !——Robert, slave to the Overseer of the Emperor's gardens !

ROBERT.—Yes, Sir.

STRANGER.—I am moved at your distress. Your sentiments are worthy
of

of better circumstances. I may also venture to promise you something.—
Trust in God!——

* * * * *

The Stranger continued silent, during the remainder of his excursion: he sat, enveloped in deep thought, without attempting to utter a word.

When it was dark, he ordered Robert to put him on shore; and, in stepping out of the boat, forced his purse into the youth's hand, retreating with so much precipitation, that he could not once express his acknowledgments. The purse contained sixteen pistoles and ten crowns.

Robert was powerfully affected at this extraordinary instance of generosity; and, next day, he scoured
through

through every street and avenue of the city, in hopes of meeting, that he might thank, his noble-minded benefactor. But vain were his utmost endeavours, his enquiries, and his researches : the Stranger was no-where to be found.

The family still continued their incessant labours ; still adhered to their economical arrangements, in the hope of collecting the required sum.

On a certain day, when they were about sitting down to a scanty dinner, which consisted only of bread and dried fruits, the ELDER Robert unexpectedly, and to their utter astonishment, entered the chamber. He surprised them in the midst of their misery.

“ Ah !

“ Ah ! my Wife !—Ah ! my dear Children !” exclaimed he, embracing them by turns, “ how has it been possible for you so soon to pay my ransom, and in such a manner too ?—How magnificently have you equipped me ! And then, yet fifty pistoles, which were given me, as I embarked, although my passage, and other incidental expences, were previously defrayed !—Tell me, tell me, by what means you have been enabled to earn all this ; and how I may reconcile the consideration with that apparent poverty in which you seem to be plunged ?”

At first, the Mother's excessive joy and astonishment deprived her of the power of utterance : she could alone encircle her Husband in her arms,
and

and melt in tears. The Daughters found themselves in the same predicament; they were unable to return any answer; while Robert sat motionless in his chair. He had lost his senses and his speech; and, after a few minutes, he fell headlong on the floor. This incident contributed to arouse the Mother; who gradually recovered the use of her tongue; and, pressing her husband more ardently than before, she exclaimed, pointing to Robert——

“ There is your deliverer!—Five hundred pounds were stated as the price of your ransom; half of which we had saved principally through the diligence, the indefatigable exertions, and the love of your son. This excellent child has doubtless met with

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some

some humane person, who, moved at the virtue of his purpose, must have lent him the sum necessary for your emancipation. We are indebted to him for this happiness; and he would still increase it, by bringing you, thus unawares, to our embraces!"

The sensibility of Robert's feelings, yet deprived him of recollection. As soon as the Mother had ceased to speak, she flew to his assistance. The Daughters, now also recovered, instantly followed her example. At length, with great difficulty, his organs assumed their natural tone; his senses returned.—He immediately directed his languid eyes towards his Father, and essayed to speak; but, as yet, his heart was too full.

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The Elder Robert, having reflected on what he had seen and heard, now observed a profound silence ; he appeared as if meditating deeply ; and, at last, when a certainty had occupied, in his mind, the place of suspicion, he turned to his Son with a mixture of surprise and indignation, exclaiming——

“ Wretched youth ! of what hast thou been guilty ? How could my deliverance remain a secret to your Mother, if you had not effected it by some illicit means ? How was it possible, at your years, and in your condition, to collect so considerable a sum of money, without committing some dishonourable, some culpable act ? I tremble, in expectation of the truth. But confess the whole, without

disguise or dissimulation; and let us all die together, rather than outlive an expedient that must have been so detestable. Deprived of honour, lost to virtue, existence is not worth our solicitude !”

“ Be comforted, my Father !” cried Robert, rising up with considerable difficulty. “ Embrace your Son ! He is still entitled to that tender name : he has neither disgraced himself or cast opprobrium on his family !—— It is not to me, nor to any of us, that you owe your liberty.—I re-collect our benefactor !—My Mother, that Stranger who presented me his purse—He is certainly the author of our happiness—He asked me so many questions respecting my Father—— Wherever he may be, I will search
for

for him! He must come here, to enjoy the charming effects of his liberality; he must participate in our transports, and drop with us tear for tear."

Having said this, he related to his Father all the previous circumstances of his meeting with the Stranger; and that explanation, carrying on its surface the strongest probability, most effectually dissipated the delicate suspicions of his worthy Parent.

In that comfortable frame of mind, he again resumed those occupations which had once before led the way to fortune; and which, in the course of two years, contributed to the same success. He provided for his Children in an advantageous manner; and nothing remained, to render their felicity

licitly perfect, than a knowledge of that generous mortal who had exchanged for them the cup of bitterness for that of pleasure, without reward, and without expectation.—

Robert, the Son, devoted every spare moment to those researches, in the streets, the alleys, on the strand, in the gardens, and the fields; till walking, at length, one Sunday morning early, near the place where his good fortune originated, he luckily encountered the object of his research.—“ Ah! my Guardian-Angel!” was all that he could utter, ere he fell senseless at the Stranger’s feet.

This Stranger, it may well be supposed, instantly hastened to the Youth’s assistance; and, by the timely application of a smelling-bottle, which

which he had in his pocket, Robert in a short time revived. The Gentleman enquired very humanely into the cause of his indisposition; and, then, the following conversation ensued——

ROBERT, *the* YOUNGER.—Ah! Sir! can you ask me that question? Is, then, Robert and his once miserable family, blotted from your memory?—That family whom you have rendered happy, by giving to them an imprisoned Father, who sighed out the weary hours in slavery?

STRANGER.—You mistake, my Friend!—I do not know you; nor can you have any knowledge of me; for I am a Stranger in Marseilles, where I arrived only a few days since.

Ro-

ROBERT.—That may be, Sir!—But, nevertheless, you must recollect that you were also here about two years ago; that you took an airing on the water, one evening; that you interested yourself in my misfortune; and asked me a variety of questions, in order to become my secret benefactor.—Generous Redeemer of my Father, can you possibly forget that you are the Saviour of a whole family? It is this family who now wish for nothing more ardently than to see you.—O! do not turn a deaf ear to their desires! Consent to share in their joy! Let the tears of your philanthropy, mix with those of our gratitude!—Come—Oh! come!—

STRANGER.—Forbear, my dear young man!--I have already said,
you

you mistake me for some other person.

ROBERT.—No, Sir, I do not mistake: your features are too deeply engraven on my soul, to admit of such a possibility. Should I not know you!—Come, I beseech you, come, most noble, most generous of men!—

Having uttered these words in a most persuasive tone; and, observing that the Stranger was still averse to his entreaties; the youth seized both the Gentleman's arms, in order to lead him forward with sweet violence. This attracted a crowd of people to the spot where they stood.

The Stranger now spoke in a more determined tone. "Sir!" said he, "this exhibition gives me offence, without affording you any benefit.—

Some

Some remarkable uniformity of features, may have led you into this error: call to mind your good understanding; return to your Father's house, and there enjoy that rest, of which you seem to stand so greatly in need."

"What cruelty!" exclaimed Robert. "Shall I then in vain lie prostrate at your feet?—Should you condemn those thanks, which our grateful hearts have sighed so long to pay?—O my fellow-citizens! join, O join me, in soliciting the founder of my happiness to go and view the fair edifice erected by himself!"

Thus pressed, and thus encompassed, the Stranger summoned all his sternness and his courage to avoid participating in that exquisite pleasure

ture which Robert and the by-standers so earnestly desired him to accept. He made an uncommon effort; disengaged himself from the multitude, and, by a hasty retreat, avoided the penetrating eyes of Robert, leaving behind him an example of magnanimity which those who were present had never before witnessed, and which they had not easily credited on the evidence of any other eyes than their own.

Thus unexpectedly disappointed, the youthful Robert became deprived of his faculties; insomuch that he was incapable of moving from the spot. Some among the crowd, pitying his condition, carried him home; where, after the usual remedies had been applied, a shower of grateful
tears

tears restored his reason, and calmed his agitated mind.

After the death of this magnanimous Stranger, he was accidentally discovered to have been no other than the President MONTESQUIEU, whose fame is sufficiently established by his writings. If those writings, however, shew him to have been one of the greatest of men, this generous action proclaims him one of the best of characters !

The preceding incident added to the several others which we have enumerated---will assuredly serve to eradicate even the idea of neglect towards Parents, from the minds of our juvenile Readers. By loving and succouring those who gave them birth, particularly in the hour of
sick-

sickness and distress, Children not only discharge that duty which is incumbent on them, but they always obtain the approbation—frequently the patronage—of good and powerful men; and thus easily lay the foundation of Fortune and Happiness.

REVENGE SWEETENED

BY

GENEROSITY.

IF there was not inward complacency to be experienced in the performance of a generous action; if it was not a moral obligation due to our fellow-creatures; if it was not consistent with the principles of a pure religion; still there are other incitements which may render it politic to alleviate the cries of distress, however mean or apparently contemptible the object. We do not, however, recommend our youthful Readers to form their notions of liberality on the selfish consideration

sideration of interest; nor to render them universally profuse. There are some cases where it is almost criminal to lavish benefits: for pecuniary aids harden the vicious, and contribute to make an indolent character a still more unworthy member of society: for others, seeing Laziness fatten on the spoils of the Bountiful, catch the contagion, and renounce the profits and the sweets of honest industry. We may as well be niggardly as give without discrimination; except under circumstances where a drop of water, or a crust of bread, would suffice to nourish an exhausted suppliant.

Some short time since, an Indian, in North America, having hunted a whole day without success, found himself, towards evening, seriously

overcome by hunger and thirst. In this unpleasant dilemma, he approached the cottage of an American, who resided on the borders of the woods: there he made known his wants to the Master of the house; and concluded by humbly desiring a morsel or two of bread. "I have none!" answered the American, in a surly tone. "Give me, then, a cup of small beer?" said the famishing Indian. "Indeed I will not," replied he. "I am so faint," replied the *Savage*, "that a glass of water, even, will be acceptable!"

"Be gone, you Indian dog!" answered the American: "I will not give you any-thing!"

About six months after this occurrence, the American went out to hunt,

hunt, with several of his neighbours; from all of whom he was separated by accident. It happened too, in a thick forest, to the turnings of which he was a perfect stranger: for a long time, therefore, did he rove about, and elevate his voice in vain; the hopes of being enabled to extricate himself, did not seem to coincide with probability. When, however, the bewildered Hunter was sinking in despair, he fortunately perceived an Indian hut, the owner of which he requested to guide him home.

“It is too late, Sir!” said the Indian. “You cannot reach your house to-night. Be contented, therefore, to tarry in my habitation till to-morrow. Every thing that I have, shall be at your service!”

This strayed Huntsman cheerfully accepted the Indian's offer. He partook of such refreshments as the hut afforded; and afterwards stretched his weary body on a bed of skins, which the Host's family had carefully collected for that purpose.

Next morning the Indian conducted his Guest out of the wood, and shewed him the direct road, which led to his own village. When they were about taking leave of each other, the Indian stepped before his Companion; and, looking full in his face, desired him to consider, Whether, or not, they were total strangers? "Have you never seen me before, Sir?" said the Indian.

At that instant, the American recognized, in his Benefactor, the very man

man to whom he had so recently denied a glass of cold water ! the very man who, fatigued and hungry, he had driven with indignation, from his door. He was disconcerted ; and shame so fully possessed his soul, that he could devise no means of apologising for his inhumanity : of course, he continued a mortifying silence ; while the Indian, big with the pride of conscious superiority, thus concluded his triumph——

“ When now,” said he “ you again see any of my Tribe oppressed by hunger or thirst, and they ask you for a bit of bread, or for a drop of water,—say to them——“ Go about your business, you Indian dogs !”

INGENUOUSNESS REWARDED.

WILLIAM and Harriet obtained liberty from their Mother to walk in the garden, at certain times, without being attended by any person for the purpose of watching their motions.— This privilege was granted them as a reward for their unremitting diligence at study.

This pretty Brother and Sister also made as good a use of the favour which they enjoyed, as could be wished or expected : for a considerable time at least. But at length they transgressed ; rather, however, for want of thought, than from an obstinate intention to trample on the

the regulations which had been formed.

Their Parents had strictly commanded them never to pluck any thing from the trees; nor even to eat such fruit as might lie on the ground, without first having special permission for that purpose.—One day, they stopped, as it were insensibly, by the side of a peach-tree, which bore that year but little fruit; but that little was exceedingly delicious. On the ground, under that same tree, lay two beautiful peaches; both of which, William instantly conveyed into his hands, and, without the smallest consideration, elevated one of them to his mouth, and gave the other to Harriet, who but too care-

carelessly followed the bewitching example of her Brother.

Scarcely was this offence committed, before Harriet recollected the parental prohibition. "Ah! my dear William!" cried she, "we have been very naughty. We were ordered not to eat any fruit from the ground. Our good mother will be angry with us!—What, what shall we do?"—

WILLIAM.—Ey!—Why she does not know it!

HARRIET.—But she *must* know it, my dear William!—You have not forgot, have you, how readily she pardons our faults, when we confess them ingenuously?

WILLIAM.—Yes! But now we have been disobedient; and disobedient.

obedience is a crime which she does not lightly forgive.

HARRIET.—Well, but when she does punish us, 'tis because we are dear to her; and therefore she would make us better. Then we do not so soon forget her commands, or her orders.

WILLIAM.—I declare, you are right, my dear Harriet! But it will grieve Mamma, to be under the necessity of punishing us. I cannot bear to see her sorrowful; particularly when I am the occasion of it.

HARRIET.—Nor I neither, my dear Brother. But it will affect her much more, when she hereafter discovers that we wilfully tried to conceal our folly.—How shall we, with the consciousness of our guilt, dare
to

to meet her accusing eyes ! or when she caresses us, and calls both you and me her *dear Children*, in what manner shall we conduct ourselves, knowing how little we deserve such goodness ?

WILLIAM.—Ah ! Harriet, I perceive you understand the matter better than I do. Come, let us go, and confess our faults at once.

Hand pressed in hand, the two little ones left the garden, and appeared before their Mother.

“ Dear Mother ! ” cried Harriet, “ we have been disobedient, but not with premeditation. We forgot your commands. We submit ourselves to the punishment which you may please to inflict on us. But we pray you not to be very angry ; and that you will not make yourself unhappy. We will

will take care to behave ourselves more considerately for the future.—

William then related the whole affair, precisely as it had happened. The good Mother was so much affected at the openness and sincerity of her children, that she cried with excess of joy. Nor did she punish them ; judging, that the willing compunction which they had manifested, was as good a security as she could possibly have for their succeeding good conduct.—Such, my little Readers, is the sovereign influence of Truth and Ingenuoufness !

REMARKABLE INSTANCE

OF

BROTHERLY AFFECTION.

COUNT REIFFENSTEIN, a Nobleman of considerable property, who died lately at Vienna, left by will 40,000 florins to each of his four Children; but only 10,000 to a fifth. The eldest of the four being present when the will was opened, went almost immediately afterwards to his Brothers and Sister, and informed them that their deceased Father had, in his testament, been very unfavourable to one of his Children; proposing, at the sametime, to divide their

their paternal inheritance into five equal shares.

This proposal was the more readily accepted, because they all knew that the individual who made it had been their father's distinguished favourite; and therefore every one of the four entertained a kind of dread that himself, or herself, might be the person to whom the Brother alluded.

As soon as this Agreement had been drawn and signed in due form, the Proposer informed them that it was their *Sister* who had fallen under her Father's displeasure, for having married contrary to his desires.

This generous offer of the young Reiffenstein reached the Emperor's ears; and he in consequence pledged himself to reward his disinterested-

ness, the first suitable opportunity.
 "He must fill an office of more
 than common importance!" said the
 Emperor.

THE

THE SLAVES;

OR,

THE BENEFIT REPAID.

CAPTAIN SNELLGRAVE commanded an English vessel, in the African slave trade, and was remarkable for his humanity. Custom alone can authorise this commerce, offensive to nature, and not to be carried on but at the utmost peril, since injustice and tyranny generally produce rebellion and despair. For this reason, the Europeans are obliged to put the unhappy negroes they buy in chains, during the night, and most part of the day; notwithstanding which precaution, they often find means to

unite, and conspire the destruction of their Masters.

Snellgrave bought many Negroes on the banks of the river Collabar, among whom he observed a young woman seemingly overwhelmed with grief. Affected by her tears, he desired his Interpreter to question her, and learnt, she wept for an only Child she had lost the evening before.

She was taken on board the vessel, and, the very same day, Snellgrave received an invitation to visit the King of the district. Snellgrave accepted the invitation; but, knowing the ferocity of that people, he ordered ten of his Sailors and the Gunner to accompany him, well armed. He was conducted to some distance from the shore, and found
the

the King placed on an elevated seat, under the shade of some trees.

The assembly was numerous; a croud of Negro Lords surrounded their King, and his Guard, composed of about fifty men, armed with bows and arrows, the sabre at their side, and the zagaye in their hand, stood at some distance; the English, with muskets on their shoulders, remained opposite his Black Majesty.

Snellgrave presented to the King some European trifles. As he was ending his harangue, he heard groans, at some little distance that made him shudder; and, turning round, perceived a little Negro tied by the leg to a stake stuck in the ground. Two other Negroes, of an hideous aspect, that stood by the side of a hole dug in
in

in the earth, armed with hatchets, and cloathed in an uncouth manner, seemed to guard the Child; who looked at them weeping, with his hands raised in a supplicating posture.

The King, observing the emotion which this strange spectacle evidently caused in Snellgrave, thought to encourage him, by assuring him he had nothing to fear from the two Negroes whom he looked at with so much surprise. "It is only," said he, with great gravity, "a Child, whom we are going to sacrifice to the god Egbo for the prosperity of the kingdom."

This intelligence made Snellgrave tremble with horror; the English were only twelve men in all; the Court and Guard of the African since were altogether above an hundred;

dred; but compassion and humanity would not suffer Snellgrave to consider all he had to fear from the number and ferocity of the Barbarians.—“Let us save this wretched Child, my Lads,” said he, turning to his Crew; “come, follow me.”

So saying, he ran to the little Negro; and the English, all animated by the same feelings, as hastily followed. The Negroes, at seeing this, yelled dismally, and fell tumultuously upon the English; Snellgrave presented his pistol; and, seeing the King draw back, demanded to be heard.

The King, with a single word, calmed the fury of the Negroes, who stopped, and remained inactive, while
Snell-

Snellgrave, by means of his Interpreter, explained the motives of his conduct, and ended, by entreating the King to sell him the Victim. The proposition was accepted; and Snellgrave was determined not to dispute about price. Happily, however, for him, the Negro King wanted neither gold nor silver, was ignorant of pearls and diamonds, and, thinking he would be sure to ask enough, demanded a necklace of blue glass beads, which was instantly given.

Snellgrave then immediately flew to the innocent, little creature he had snatched from death, and drew his cutlafs to divide the cord by which its legs were tied. The frightened Child thought Snellgrave was going to kill him, and gave a shriek: but
Snell-

Snellgrave took him in his arms with transport, and pressed him to his bosom. As soon as the Child's fears were removed, he smiled, and carested his Deliverer; who, full of delicious sensations, and penetrated with tenderness, took leave of the King, and returned to his ship.

When he came on board, he saw the young Negroess, whom he had bought in the morning; she was ill, and sat weeping beside the Surgeon, who, not able to persuade her to eat, obliged her to remain in the open air, for fear she should faint again. The moment Snellgrave and his people passed by her, she turned her head, and, perceiving the little Negro in the arms of a Sailor, shrieked, rose, and ran to the Child, who knew its
Mother,

Mother, called to her, and held out his arms.

She clasped her Infant to her bosom—Every fatal resolution she had formed, her loss of liberty, the dreadful ills she had suffered, her projects of despair, all were forgotten—She was a Mother, and had found her lost Child.

She learnt, however, from the Interpreter, every circumstance of Snellgrave's behaviour; then, still holding her Infant in her arms, she ran and threw herself at her Benefactor's feet. —“ Now it is,” said she, “ that I am truly your Slave; this night was to have delivered me from bondage: I held you a tyrant; but you have given me more than life; you have given me back my Son; you are be-
come

come my Father: henceforth be assured of my obedience.—This Infant is a dear and certain pledge.

While the Woman spoke with all the warmth and energy of the most impassioned gratitude, the Interpreter explained her discourse to Snellgrave, who could not receive a sweeter reward for his humanity; which, nevertheless, was productive of other good effects.

He had no more than three hundred Slaves on board, to whom the young Negroess related her adventure; this having heard, after expressing their admiration by redoubled plaudits, they promised unbounded submission; and, in effect, Snellgrave, during the rest of the voyage, found in them all the respect and obedience

a Father could receive from his Children.

Such is the power of Gratitude and Virtue over the most ferocious Savages.—What, then, among us, should be the irresistible force of this means, so sweet, and so sure to subjugate all hearts?

This short Story, my Children, may likewise serve to confirm a truth which cannot too often be repeated; and that is, that virtuous actions are always conducive to personal interest.

INDUSTRY

INDUSTRY BETTER THAN GOLD.

ABOUT the time that many people went over to South America, with the hopes of finding gold and silver, there was a Spaniard, whose name was Pizarro, who had a great inclination to try his fortune like the rest. But as he had an elder brother, for whom he had a very great affection, he went to him, told him his design, and solicited him very much to go along with him, promising him that he should have an equal share of all the riches they found. The brother, whose name was Alonzo, was a man of a contented temper, and a good understanding; he did not therefore

much approve of the project, and endeavoured to dissuade Pizarro from it, by setting before him the danger to which he exposed himself, and the uncertainty of his succeeding. But finding all that he said was in vain, he agreed to go with him, but told him at the same time, that he wanted no part of the riches which he might find, and would ask no other favour than to have his baggage and a few servants taken on board the vessel with him. Pizarro then sold all that he had, bought a vessel, and embarked with several other adventurers, who had all great expectations, like himself, of soon becoming rich.

As to Alonzo, he took nothing with him but a few ploughs, harrows, and other tools, and some corn, together

gether with a large quantity of potatoes, and some seeds of different vegetables. Pizarro thought this a very odd preparation for the voyage; but, as he did not think proper to expostulate with his brother, he said nothing.

After sailing some time with prosperous winds, they put into the last port where they were to stop, before they came to the country where they were to search for gold. Here Pizarro bought a great number more of pick-axes, shovels, and various other tools, for digging, melting, and refining the gold he expected to find, besides hiring an additional number of labourers to assist him in the work.—Alonzo, on the contrary, bought only a few sheep, and four stout oxen, with

their harness, and food enough to subsist them till they should arrive at land.

As it happened, they met with a favourable voyage, and all landed in perfect health in America.—Alonzo then told his brother, that, as he had only come to accompany and serve him, he would stay near the shore, with his servants and cattle, while he went to search for gold; and when he had acquired as much as he desired, should be always ready to embark for Spain with him.

Pizarro accordingly set out, not without feeling so great a contempt for his brother, that he could not help expressing it to his companions: —“I always thought,” said he, “that my Brother had been a man of sense; he

he bore that character in Spain; but I find people were strangely mistaken in him. Here he is going to divert himself with his sheep and oxen, as if he was living quietly upon his farm at home, and had nothing else to do than to raise cucumbers and melons. But we know better what to do with our time; so come along, my lads; and if we have but good luck, we shall soon be enriched for the rest of our lives."

All that were present, applauded Pizarro's speech, and declared themselves ready to follow him wherever he went; only one old Spaniard shook his head as he went, and told him, he doubted whether he would find his Brother so great a fool as he thought

They

They then travelled on, several days march, into the country; sometimes obliged to cross rivers; at others, to pass mountains and forests, where they could find no paths; sometimes scorched by the violent heat of the sun, and then wetted to the skin by violent showers of rain.—These difficulties, however, did not discourage them so much as to hinder them from trying in several places for gold, which they were, at length, lucky enough to find in a considerable quantity.

This success animated them very much; and they continued working upon that spot till all their provisions were consumed; they gathered daily, large quantities of ore; but then they suffered very much from
hunger.

hunger. Still, however, they persevered in their labours and sustained themselves with such roots and berries as they could find. At last, even this resource failed them; and, after several of their company had died from want and hardship, the rest were just able to crawl back to the place where they had left Alonzo, carrying with them the gold, to acquire which they had suffered so many miseries.—

But while they had been employed in this manner, Alonzo, who foresaw what would happen, had been industriously toiling to a very different purpose. His skill in husbandry had easily enabled him to find a spot of considerable extent, and very fertile soil, which he ploughed up with the
oxen

oxen he had brought with him, and the assistance of his servants. He then sowed the different seeds he had brought, and planted the potatoes, which prospered beyond what he could have expected, and yielded him a most abundant harvest. His sheep he had turned out in a very fine meadow, near the sea; and every one of them had brought him a couple of lambs. Besides that, he and his servants, at leisure times, employed themselves in fishing; and the fish they had caught were all dried and salted, with salt they had found upon the sea-shore; so that, by the time of Pizarro's return, they had laid up a very considerable quantity of provision.

When

When Pizarro returned, his brother received him with the greatest cordiality, and asked him what success he had had?—Pizarro told him, that they had found an immense quantity of gold, but that several of his companions had perished, and that the rest were almost starved, from the want of provisions.—He then requested his brother would immediately give him something to eat, as he assured him, he had tasted no food the last two days, excepting the roots and bark of trees.—Alonzo then very coolly answered, that he should remember, that when they set out they made an agreement, that neither should interfere with the other; that he had never desired to have any share of the gold which

Pizarro

Pizarro might acquire, and therefore he wondered that Pizarro should expect to be supplied with the provisions that he had procured with so much care and labour.—“ But,” added he, “ if you chuse to exchange some of the gold you have found, for provisions, I shall perhaps be able to accommodate you.”

Pizarro thought this behaviour very unkind in his brother; but, as he and his companions were almost starved, they were obliged to comply with his demands, which were so exorbitant, that, in a very short time, they parted with all the gold they had brought with them, merely to purchase food.

Alonzo then proposed to his brother, to embark for Spain, in the same

same vessel which had brought them thither, as the winds and weather seemed to be most favourable.—But Pizarro, with an angry look, told him, that, since he had deprived him of every thing he had gained, and treated him in so unfriendly a manner, he should go without him ; for, as to himself, he would rather perish upon that desert shore, than embark with so inhuman a brother.

But Alonzo, instead of relenting these reproaches, embraced his brother with the greatest tenderness, and spoke to him in the following manner:—" Could you then believe, my dearest Pizarro, that I really meant to deprive you of the fruits of all your labours, which you have acquired with so much toil and danger ?

Q

Rather

Rather may all the gold in the universe perish, than I should be capable of such behaviour to my dearest brother! But I saw the rash, impetuous desire you had of riches, and wished to correct this fault in you, and serve you at the same time. You despised my prudence and industry, and imagined that nothing could be wanting to him that had once acquired wealth. But you have now learned, that, without that foresight and industry, all the gold you have brought with you would not have prevented you from perishing miserably. You are now, I hope, wiser; and therefore take back your riches, which I hope you have now learned to make a proper use of."—Pizarro was equally filled with gratitude

titude and astonishment at this generosity of his brother; and he acknowledged, from experience, that Industry was better than Gold.

They then embarked for Spain, where they all safely arrived. During the voyage, Pizarro often solicited his brother to accept of half his riches, which Alonzo constantly refused, telling him, that he that could raise food enough to maintain himself, was in no want of gold.



FINIS.



